

NISTIR 6774

Workshop On Fire Testing Measurement Needs: Proceedings

William Grosshandler
(Editor)



NIST

National Institute of Standards and Technology
Technology Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce

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U.S. Department of Commerce
Donald Evans, Secretary

National Institute of Standards and Technology
Dr. Karen H. Brown, Acting Director

APPENDIX V. Presentations

A. WELCOME

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Workshop on Fire Testing Measurement Needs



Introductory Comments

NIST June 18, 2001

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National Institute of Standards and Technology

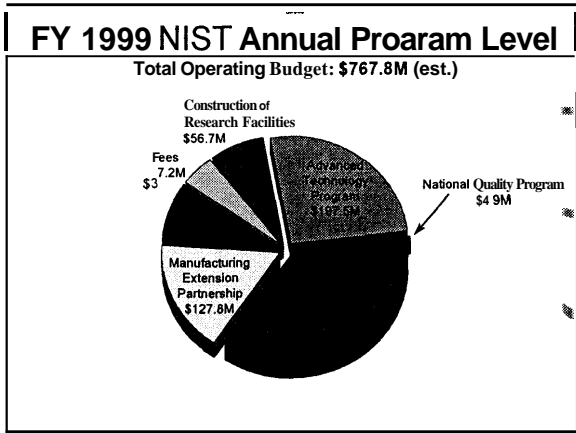
NIST promotes economic growth by working with industry to develop and apply technology, measurements, and standards through...



Helping America Measure Up

- 3300 employees
- \$760 million budget
- 1200 industrial partners
- 2000 field agents
- 1550 guest researchers
- \$1.4 billion co-funding of industry R&D
- national measurement standards

U.S. Department of Commerce
Technology Administration

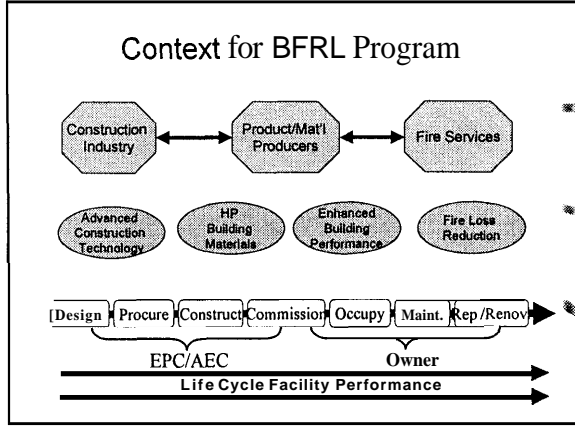
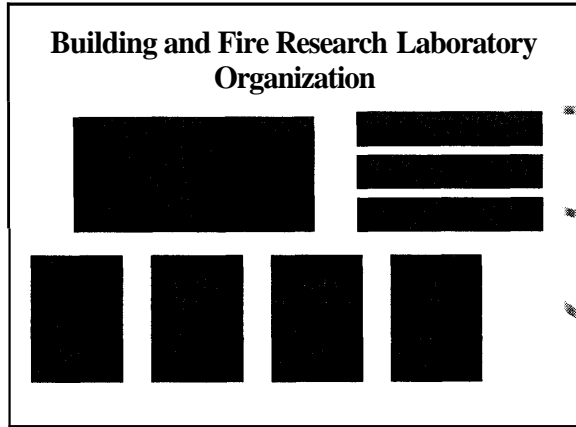


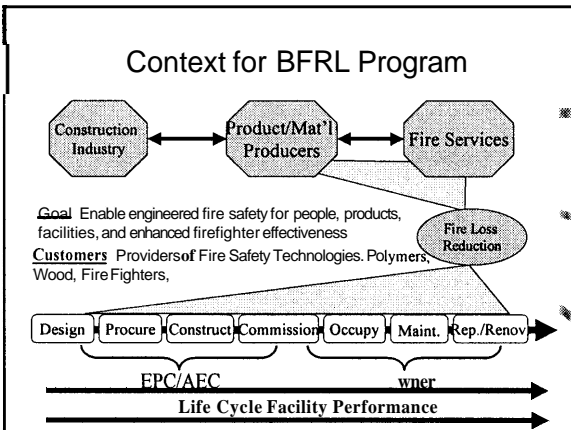
BFRL Mission

Meet the measurement and standards needs of the Building and Fire Safety Communities.

Vision

The source of critical tools -- metrics, models, and knowledge -- used to modernize the Building and Fire Safety Communities.



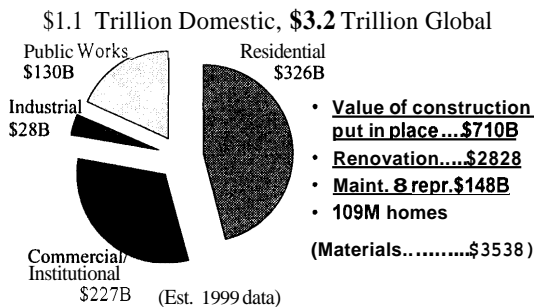


The Main Message...

The new economy and the advances in thinking, practice and technology that are part of it, are dramatically changing the ways we think about, provide, maintain, and regulate buildings.

There are profound implications for how we assure material, product and facility fire safety as well.

Context - Construction and Buildings is Big Business



Key Drivers/Barriers for Buildings and Fire Communities

Drivers

- Globalization and economics of "Better, Faster, Safer, less Costly"
 - Cycle time, life cycle performance, risk management
 - Harmonization and major markets (EU, Americas & AP)
 - Liability and accountability trends
 - Performance-based standards and codes
 - Consolidation, new business paradigms (alliances, 24x7, ...)
- IT, e-construction, simulation, and automation
- Sustainability and environmental/resource management

Barriers

- Fragmentation
- Minimum "first cost" mindset
- Traditional standards and codes
- Lack of R&D

Implications for Building Regulation

- Many current practices counterproductive.
- Little knowledge of the costs, and no measures of the benefits.
- No theory or model for guiding what regulation is attempting to do.
- IT impacts real, huge, inescapable.
- IT alone is not the answer.

Challenge to Workshop

- "What is it we are trying to accomplish with current system of fire tests and standards?"
- "How can that best be done in context of advances in measurement, prediction and control and realities of modern society?"
- How can we benefit from advances in research, practice, and stay globally competitive in the process?
- Can we benefit from alliances, partnering, joint efforts?